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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

OMB 0651-0031

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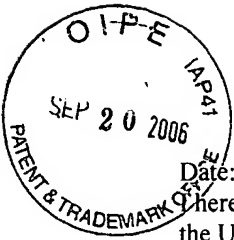
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	10/691,186
		Filing Date	October 22, 2003
		First Named Inventor	John G. ATWOOD
		Group Art Unit	1744
		Examiner Name	William H. BEISNER
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	7 pages plus 5 documents	Attorney Docket Number	5010-141-01
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement Postcard	
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name	Leonard D. Bowersox		
Signature			
Date	September 20, 2006		
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
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Type or printed name	Virginia J. Byers		
Signature		Date	September 20, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which has to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS: SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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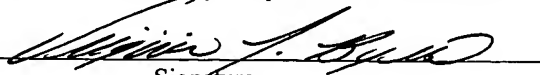
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Virginia J. Byers
Name (Print)


Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/691,186 Confirmation No.: 6805
Applicants : John G. ATWOOD et al.
Filed : October 22, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1744
Examiner : William H. BEISNER

Attorney Docket No. : 5010-141-01
Customer No. : 35411

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 20, 2006

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b. Copies of the listed documents that have not been filed in a related case and are non-U.S. patents or non-U.S. published patent applications are enclosed.

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is also directed to commonly owned and co-pending applications numbers 10/929,961, filed August 30, 2004, 11/433,872, filed May 12, 2006, and 11/433,892, filed May 12, 2006.

Petition is hereby made for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, which is being submitted after issuance of an Office Action on the merits but before any final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.

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U.S. Patent Application No. 10/691,186
Information Disclosure Statement dated September 20, 2006

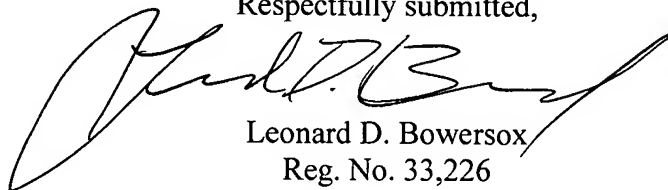
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. *See* 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08b be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

A Credit Card Payment Form covering the amount of \$180.00 for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is included. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to Deposit Account No. 50-0925.

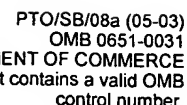
Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No. 33,226

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Tel: (703) 385-9688
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Enclosures: Forms PTO/SB/08a (1 page) and PTO/SB/08b (1 pages) and 5 cited documents



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**
(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

2

Complete if Known

Application Number

10/691.186

Filing Date

October 22, 2003

First Named Inventor

John G. ATWOOD

Art Unit

1744

Examiner Name

William H. BEISNER

Attorney Docket Number

5010-141-01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Virginia J. Byers
Name:

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